



General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 December 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fifth session

Agenda item 97

General and complete disarmament

**Letter dated 16 December 2010 from the Permanent
Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General**

The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani, chaired the National Command Authority meeting on 14 December 2010. A copy of the press release issued after the meeting is attached hereto (see annex).

I would greatly appreciate it if my letter, along with its annex, is issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 97.

(Signed) Abdullah Hussain **Haroon**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 16 December 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Press release dated 14 December 2010

The National Command Authority met on 14 December 2010 under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani. Members of the Authority, including federal ministers, the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, service chiefs and senior officials, attended the meeting. It reviewed recent global and regional developments and their implications for Pakistan's national security.

The National Command Authority expressed concern over policies and trends of selectivity, exceptionalism and discrimination relating to strategic export-control regimes. Such policies, detrimental as they are to international peace and security, undermine the credibility of the existing non-proliferation regime and are inconsistent with national laws and international obligations. Revisionism based on strategic, political or commercial considerations accentuates asymmetries and would perpetuate instability, especially in South Asia.

The Authority underscored that peace and security were indivisible and that the goals of non-proliferation could be advanced only by ensuring equal and undiminished security for all States. Regional balance and strategic stability in South Asia are indispensable for peace, sustained development and prosperity for the region and beyond.

The Authority categorically reiterated that Pakistan would never accept discriminatory treatment and that it rejected any effort to undermine its strategic deterrence. Pakistan would not be a party to any approach that was prejudicial to its legitimate national security interests.

As a nuclear weapon State, Pakistan is fully cognizant of its responsibilities and has established effective and robust command-and-control structures and comprehensive export control and regulatory regimes. These are fully compatible with international best practices and global regimes, and are acknowledged internationally.

The Authority underscored that Pakistan shared the goals of non-proliferation and was prepared to work with other nuclear powers on an equal footing to advance those goals. As a State with advanced nuclear technology, Pakistan was also prepared to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear technology, under the appropriate International Atomic Energy Agency framework.

The Authority expressed satisfaction at the pace of development and effectiveness of Pakistan's strategic deterrence. It reaffirmed that all requisite steps would be taken to ensure Pakistan's national security and to maintain credible deterrence.